

Remarks

Claims 1-43 have been cancelled and claims 44-77 have been added. Claims 44-77 are currently pending. In light of the foregoing amendments, the applicants respectfully request advancement of the present application to allowance.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claim 1 of prior U.S. Patent No. 5,935,099. The applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, but have cancelled claim 1 and have submitted new claims in an effort to advance prosecution of this application. The applicants request withdrawal of the pending rejection and allowance of the currently pending claims.

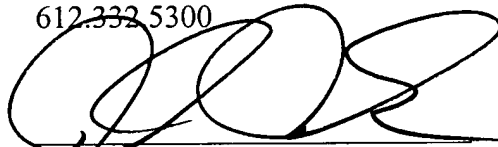
Please contact the undersigned attorney if there are any questions, or if he can be of any assistance to the examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date:

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